

## A STATISTICAL REPORT ON THE WALPOLE-NORFOLK CLASSIFICATION PROGRAM

Introduction. A statistical report on the Norfolk-Walpole Classification system was published by the Department of Correction in July, 1968. In addition to presenting data on the time between commitment and classification, case manager productivity, transfer recommendations, and the number of cases classified relative to the number of new commitments it contained criticism and suggestions for improvement of the system. A meeting was held in August, 1968 to discuss the report and investigate means of improving the system. The present report combines the data of the first report with data collected for the 7 month period following the meeting and evaluates progress toward recommended changes.

Length of time between Commitment and Classification. The first report containing data from January through June 1968 indicated that the length of time between commitment and classification was increasing with the January-March average being 8.5 weeks and the April-June average being 11 weeks. The overall average for these six months was 9.8 weeks. Data collected from August 1968 through February, 1969 indicated that more recently the average time between commitment and classification is decreasing somewhat. The average for the August-October period was 12 weeks, but this was counterbalanced by a decrease to 8.7 weeks for the period from November-February. Although the length of time appears to have reached a peak in the period between April and October, and dropped somewhat more recently, the overall average is higher than has been recommended. The commitment to classification process under the guidelines set up by the committee should take six weeks, but as these data indicate in the period January, 1968 to February, 1969 the overall average is 10 weeks.

Table II presents a breakdown of the length of time between commitment and classification. As indicated, in the period between January and June 1968, less than 10% of the inmates were classified within 6 weeks after commitment.

During the period from August 1968 to February 1969 only about 6% were classified within 6 weeks. In both of the time periods under consideration, the data indicate that 25% of the inmates have to wait twelve weeks or longer before being classified. It would appear that suggestions relative to shortening the classification period have not been put into effect.

#### Comparison of Number Committed with Number Classified

Consideration of the classification status of inmates committed between October 1968 and March 18, 1969 indicated that 48.5% of these men are as yet unclassified. It would be expected that a number of the men most recently admitted would not as yet be classified, but as table III indicates, some of those admitted in October, November and December have yet to be done. If the data for these three months are combined, it is found that 12.6% of the men admitted are as yet unclassified. This means that these men have been awaiting classification for at least  $3\frac{1}{2}$  months.

An analysis of those admitted in the most recent six week period, February 9, 1969 through March 22, 1969, indicated that none of the 39 men admitted have been classified. If the classification system were operating consistent with the recommended 6 week classification period, it would be expected that at least a few of these men would have been classified. In taking the ten week period January 12, 1969 through March 22, 1969 it was found that only 6 (6.3%) of the 95 men committed during this period have been classified. These data indicate that even a ten week classification period is not being met at this point.

#### Weekly Number of Cases Presented by Case Managers

Table IV presents each case manager, the number of cases handled and the number of weeks covered. The average number of cases per social worker for the period between March 3, 1968 and July 2, 1968 was 1.5 cases a week, while for the period between August 1968 and March 3, 1969 it was 1.4. These data indicate a slight decrease in the average number of cases done by the social workers.

### Transfer Recommendations

One of the recommendations coming out of the first report was that the number of inmates recommended for transfer to the forestry camps be increased. Table V presents a breakdown of transfer recommendations for January - June 1968 and August 1968 - March 1969. It is interesting to note that there have been some minor changes in the number recommended for the various institutions, and that the number recommended for forestry has increased by only 1.8 percentage points. It is evident that if this trend continues the forestry population will decrease.

### Summary and Conclusion

The data collected in this report indicate several minor changes in the Classification procedure since the first statistical report was published in July, 1968. During the period from August, 1968 - February, 1969 the average time between commitment and classification decreased by approximately 3 weeks but the overall average for this time period remained relatively high at 10.2 weeks this is 4 weeks longer than the time recommended in the classification guidelines.

A breakdown of actual length of time between commitment and classification revealed only minor differences in the time it takes to classify these men. As was found in the first study, fully 25% of the men classified between August, 1968 and February, 1969 had to wait 12 weeks or more before being classified.

Consideration of the classification status of those admitted in the period from October, 1968 - March 18, 1969 revealed that a good percentage of these men (48.5%) are still to be classified. In the period from October to December, 12.6% of the men admitted are still unclassified. If the last 10 weeks of this period are considered January 12, - March 22, it was found that 92.7% of the men committed have not been classified.

An analysis of case manager productivity during the period from August 13, 1968 to March 4, 1969 indicated that the average weekly number of cases completed had dropped very slightly. The first report indicated that the case managers did an average of 1.5 cases per week while the more recent data indicates that the average case manager does 1.4 cases a week.

The final data collected indicated that relatively minor changes have taken place in inmate transfer. Although the first report indicated that the more men should be recommended for forestry, it appears that this has not been done.

In general, it appears that the time it takes to classify inmates, the productivity of the case managers and the types of transfer recommendations made remain much the same as was found in the original report.

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Table I

Average Length of Time Between Commitment and Classification

January, 1968 - February, 1969

	<u>Number of Men Classified</u>	<u>Average Number of Weeks Between Commitment and Classification</u>
January	46	8.4
February	15	6.9
March	30	9.4
April	28	10.7
May	26	11.5
June	45	10.9
Subtotal	190	9.8
August	22	12.4
September	45	12.5
October	41	11.3
November	32	8.2
December	34	8.7
January	37	9.0
February	28	9.0
Subtotal	239	10.2
TOTAL	429	10.0

Table II

Breakdown of the Length of Time Between Commitment and Classification

<u>Weeks Incarcerated Before Classification</u>	<u>January - June, 1968</u>			<u>August, 1968 - February, 1969</u>		
	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Cum %</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>Cum %</u>
Less than 6 Weeks	18	9.5	9.5	15	6.2	6.2
6 up to 8 Weeks	39	20.5	30.0	59	24.5	30.7
8 up to 10 Weeks	54	28.4	58.4	52	21.6	52.3
10 up to 12 Weeks	31	16.3	74.7	55	22.8	75.1
12 up to 14 Weeks	28	14.7	89.4	30	12.4	87.5
14 Weeks or More	20	10.5	99.9	30	12.4	99.9

Table III

A Comparison of Number Committed and Classified from  
October 1, 1968 to March 18, 1969

<u>Month</u>	<u>Number Committed</u>	<u>Number Classified</u>		<u>Number Unclassified</u>	
		<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>
October	49	43	(87.8%)	6	(12.2%)
November	48	44	(91.7%)	4	( 8.3%)
December	22	17	(77.3%)	5	(22.7%)
January	50	12	(24.0%)	38	(76.0%)
February	41	0	(0%)	41	(100%)
March 1-18	15	0	(0%)	15	(100%)
TOTAL	225	116	(51.5%)	109	(48.5%)

In the 6 Week period February 9, 1969 - March 22, 1969, None of the 39 Men admitted during this period have been Classified.

In the 10 Week period January 12, 1969 - March 22, 1969, 6 (6.3%) of the 95 Men committed have been Classified.

Table IV

Number of Cases Presented to the Classification Committee by each Case Manager

<u>Case Manager</u>	<u>March 3 - July 2, 1968</u>			<u>August 13 - March 4, 1969</u>		
	<u>Number of Cases</u>	<u>Number of Weeks Covered</u>	<u>Average Week</u>	<u>Number of Cases</u>	<u>Number of Weeks Covered</u>	<u>Average Week</u>
Mr. Allard	-	-	-	29	23	1.3
Mr. Anthony	15	9	1.7	47	30	1.6
Mr. Belmore	27	18	1.5	38	30	1.3
Mr. Berman	5	3	1.7	-	-	-
Mrs. Bradshaw	2	2	1	-	-	-
Mr. Campasano	-	-	-	46	26	1.8
Mr. Doherty	20	18	1.1	-	-	-
Mr. Gauthier	26	18	1.4	29	28	1.0
Mrs. Jablonski	1	2	.5	-	-	-
Mr. Moore	17	7	2.4	7	2	3.5
Mr. Regan	16	11	1.5	-	-	-
Mr. Vigneron	-	-	-	40	30	1.3
TOTAL	129	-	1.5	236	-	1.4

Table V

Transfer Recommendations of the Classification Committee

<u>Recommendation</u>	<u>January 1 - July 2, 1968</u>		<u>August 13 - March 4, 1969</u>	
	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>
Remain at MCI-Walpole	58	29.7	77	32.0
Transfer to MCI-Norfolk	107	54.9	117	48.5
Transfer to MCI-Concord	14	7.2	23	9.5
Approved for Forestry	16	8.2	24	10.0
TOTAL	195	100.0	241	100.0